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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/978,114	10/15/2001	Richard H. Jones	PHB 34-221A	3750

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DAVID Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2681

DATE MAILED: 04/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/978,114

Applicant(s)

JONES ET AL.

Examiner

David Q Nguyen

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 February 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 02/18/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicants' Remark on page 9, Applicants argue: "Thus, when a message as taught by the present invention is received by a pager taught by *Morishima*, the pager of *Morishima* plays a melody previously composed with the pager and does not play a melody composed from the message itself."

Examiner respectfully disagrees because *Morishima* discloses the pager receives message information of a radio signal comprising an identification symbol indicating melody data such as symbol "[J]" and number "1122" (see col. 4, lines 10-28 and col. 5, lines 18-63), the CPU 5 of pager recognizes the symbol and the numbers to play melody composed from the message itself (see col. 4, lines 10-28 and col. 5, lines 18-63). Therefore, *Morishima* discloses playing a melody composed from the message itself as claimed in independent claims 20, 23 and 25.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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2. Claims 20-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Morishima (US Patent Number 6075998).

Regarding claim 20, Morishima discloses a communication device, comprising a receiver operable to receive one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message (see col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 17; fig. 5); and a processor operable to compose a melody corresponding to the one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message subsequent to a reception of the one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claim 23, Katayama discloses a method of operating a communication device in alerting a user of the communication device of an incoming message, said method comprising receiving one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message (see col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 17; fig. 5); and compose a melody corresponding to the one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message subsequent to a reception of the one of a numeric message, and alphanumeric message and a voice mail message (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claims 21 and 24, Morishima also discloses wherein said processor is further operable to divide the one of the numeric message, the alphanumeric message and the voicemail message into a plurality of fields to thereby compose the melody (see col. 6, lines 18-63; fig. 5).

Regarding claim 22, Morishima discloses a communication device comprising all of the limitations as claimed above. Morishima also discloses the plurality of fields including a tempo field, a repetitive play field, and at least one note field (see col. 4, lines 1-61 and col. 5, lines 36-59).

Regarding claim 25, Morishima discloses a communication device comprising a receiver operable to receive a message (see col. 5, line 60 to col. 6, line 17; fig. 11); a processor operable to control a display of the message (see fig. 8 and 11) and a transformation of the message into a melody subsequent to a reception of the message by said receiver (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claim 26, Morishima also discloses wherein said processor is further operable to divide the message into a plurality of fields to thereby transform the message into the melody (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claim 27, Morishima also discloses wherein the plurality of fields includes a tempo field, a repetitive play field, and at least one note field (see col. 4, lines 1-61 and col. 5, lines 36-59).

Regarding claim 28, Morishima also discloses wherein the message is a numeric message (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5).

Regarding claim 29, Morishima also discloses wherein the message is an alphanumeric message (see col. 6, lines 18-63; and fig. 5; 1st numeral data D1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morishima (US Patent Number 6075998) in view of Willner et al (US Patent Number 6064666).

Regarding claim 30, Morishima discloses a communication device comprising all of the limitations as claimed in claim 25. Morishima is silent to disclose wherein the message is a voice mail message. However, Willner et al teach the message is a voice mail message (see col. 19, lines 43-62, converting a voice mail message to text). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the above teaching of Willner et al with Morishima in order to allow the user to compose the melodic sound using voice mail message.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Q Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7844. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Moise Emmanuel can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DN

David Nguyen

E. Moise
EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER